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STATE FOR AF/SPG, AF/SE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREF PHUM PREL SU UK

SUBJECT: (SBU) SOUTHERN SUDAN: UK CHANNELING AID THROUGH  
COMMON HUMANITARIAN TRUST FUND

REF: STATE 168754

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¶1. (U) Action Request; please see paragraph 4.

¶2. (SBU) The UK has contributed some 40 million British Pounds Sterling (BPS) to the Common Humanitarian Fund for Sudan (CHF) this fiscal year (April-March); it is up to UN Humanitarian Coordinator Manuel da Silva to disburse it as he sees fit. That is HMG's answer to reftel demarche, conveyed to Poloff October 10 by FCO-DFID Sudan Unit Deputy Head James Thornton, who noted that the UN channels more CHF aid to southern Sudan than to Darfur, which would be politically impossible for the UK to do directly given the British public's strong and urgent interest in Darfur.

¶3. (SBU) Thornton, speaking after consulting higher officials, added that HMG urges the USG to start thinking about what more it can do to bolster AMIS with or without a timely transition to the UN. He was under the impression that the USG was unwilling to give any more support to AMIS absent such a transition.

¶4. (SBU) Action Requested: We would be grateful for any update on USG thinking regarding support for AMIS that we can share with FCO in response to the point in paragraph 3 above.

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